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Northern Va. Region  
Dept. of Env. Quality

Virginia Air Board  
c/o Terry Darton  
Air Permit Manager  
13901 Crown Court  
Woodbridge, VA 22193

Dear Air Board-

I am simply curious if the Board has taken it upon itself to make decisions for all of us without regard to our thoughts. As difficult as it may be to believe, many of us actually enjoy the benefits of electricity. We maintain enough sense and sense of reality to understand that places like factories and generating stations are going to give off some type of emission. That is the price we pay to enjoy things from clothing to cars and the electricity needed to power their manufacturer. The Mirant plant provides a necessary and valuable service which must be maintained.

I am tired of hearing the people who want the plant closed because of its location. The plant was built in 1949 when there was little else around. If anyone is to be held accountable, I would think the brilliant minds that keep inching closer to it would be more suitable. No one forced people in high rise condos to move in and suffer powder on their windowsill so they can quit crying as well. Opponents call the plant outdated and obsolete and say it has to improve its pollution controls or shut down. What do you call the plan to merge the stacks if not an attempt to do just that? While money is wasted on shady politics to change zoning laws and regulations for the sole purpose of closing this facility, Mirant has stated that they will pay the tab for this proposed overhaul and it quells every argument that has been raised against it. It addresses community concerns, upgrades and improves pollution controls and, best of all, doesn't cost us a dime.

Everything is in place for there to be a solution to this constant, petty bickering. Mirant is willing to make the changes that its opponents are crying for, so it's time to dry their eyes and declare victory. I would much rather give these changes an opportunity to work than be in the dark as a result of an overburdened facility somewhere else.

Thank you for your help,

  
John Kearney